

The document is a composite of the past projected to represent the future.

That is unrealistic, there are too many global factors that will influence what happens between now and 2026:

- a) the financial crisis will not be resolved for several years,
- b) the looming energy crisis will be on going,
- c) ditto the looming food crisis. How many acres of farm land have been taken for development in the last twenty years, and how many more will be taken in the project life cycle of this document?

Specific items:

1. Kent International Airport.

Fifty plus years of failed commercial attempts at Manston, and it is still projected as the solution to Thanet's problems.

KIA cargo is an import operation, how much does it export?

2. Westwood.

The success of the shopping centre can only be measured against the consequential loss of jobs in the local towns, and the on-going traffic problems that should have been foreseen and incorporated in the design process rather than permit piecemeal development over the last ten plus years.

This will be amplified if the housing development goes ahead, on top of that is the extra traffic that will be generated if/when the allocated industrial land is taken up.

3. Community Strategy.

Apart from giving lip-service to it, what happened to Agenda 21?

4. Corporate Plan.

How much is achievable under the current, and future financial constraints?

5. Employment.

Promoting development of businesses that distribute/sell products is less than 20% of the jobs that are involved with producing the products i.e. it is a Nett loss of jobs to the area.

That includes Westwood, KIA and China Gateway.

6. Shaping our Future.

What could be achieved if one stopped trying to regenerate icons of the past?

Regenerating Dreamland because it was a success in the 19th and early 20th century shows lack of vision.

Six hundred acres of Manston would make a Dreamland of the 21st century, a 365 day a year sports/leisure/entertainment facility that would attract the crowds even in a depression.

Infratil will be looking for an alternative use when they eventually realise the reality of the air industry and they can't sell it to recover their investment.

It could be done on a franchise basis to minimise the investment by any one company.

It would be a) a big boost to Thanets economy, b) a boost to employment.

7. Housing.

I am well aware of government edicts, which could change next year, the bigger problem is how will we find jobs for the occupants when we do not have enough jobs for the current population.

8. Employment.

What will happen when Pfizer closes.

Regards

Bernard